

The **CAROLINA FARMER**

AUGUST, 1966

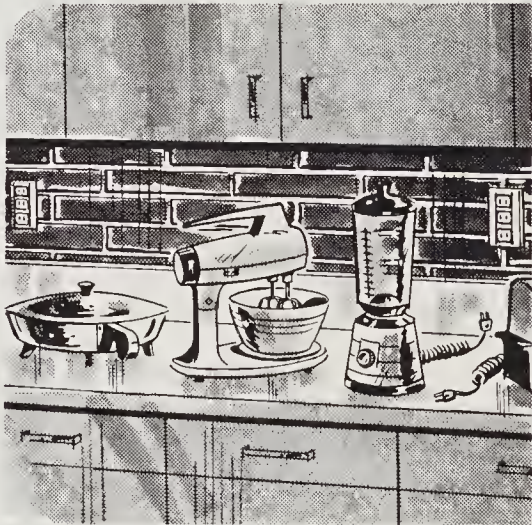


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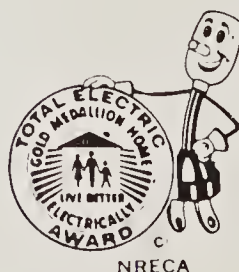
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Ask your rural electric about the Gold Medallion Standards. It'll pay you to do so . . . pay you in more comfort, greater convenience and better values for years to come!



The CAROLINA FARMER

Vol. 21, No. 8, August, 1966

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Successful Example

Last month, while a cordon of power company presidents were trying to convince Congress that the proposed Federal Bank for Rural Electric Systems was some sort of gigantic raid on the U. S. Treasury, a refreshing news release came from Washington. It began:

"Farmers made good this week on two long-term investments their Government made in them over 30 years ago.

"This happened when the Farm Credit Administration, the independent agency which supervises the Farm Credit System nationally, transmitted checks to the U. S. Treasury from the Wichita (Kan.) and Louisville (Ky.) Banks for Cooperatives for \$553 thousand and \$1 million respectively. The checks represented the retirement of the last remaining Government stock in these two banks."

The release also pointed out that during the past year co-ops borrowed \$1.3 billion from 13 Banks for Cooperatives across the country. Two other banks are already completely member owned and the remaining banks expect to achieve this goal in the next four years.

And these banks are but a part of the farm credit system, through which farmers and their cooperatives borrow over \$7 billion a year. Other units, most of which are already completely member owned, include 12 Federal Land Banks and affiliated land bank associations and 12 Federal Intermediate Credit Banks and affiliated production credit associations.

The relevance of this to rural electrification is readily apparent if you examine the proposals now before Congress. The Federal Bank for Rural Electric Systems is based on the formula that has proven so successful with the Bank for Cooperatives and the Federal Land Banks.

In moving toward a Federal Bank for Rural Electric Systems, the rural electric cooperatives have initiated a long-range program to lessen the government's financial burden. Creation of this bank is the first step toward eventual independence from financial reliance on the federal government.

COVER—The summer is fast slipping away from us—but there's still time to visit one of our favorite spots in Variety Vacation Land—Ocracoke. The lighthouse there is just one of the many interesting things on this isolated island. Photo courtesy of N. C. Department of Conservation and Development.

This month . . .

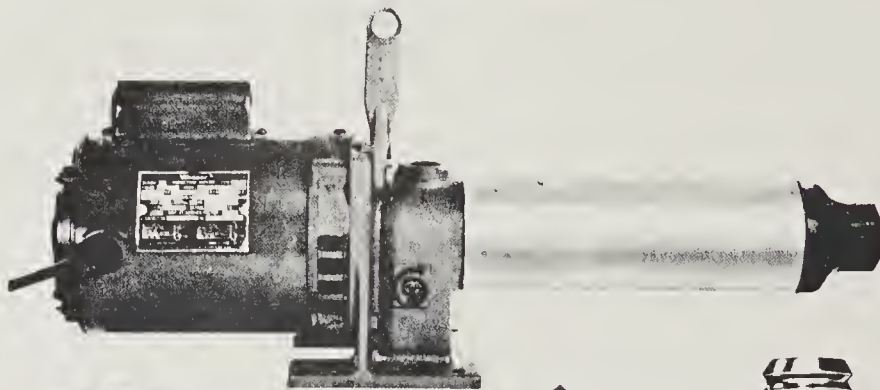
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THE CAROLINA FARMER'S COMPLETE LINE PUMP SUPPLIER

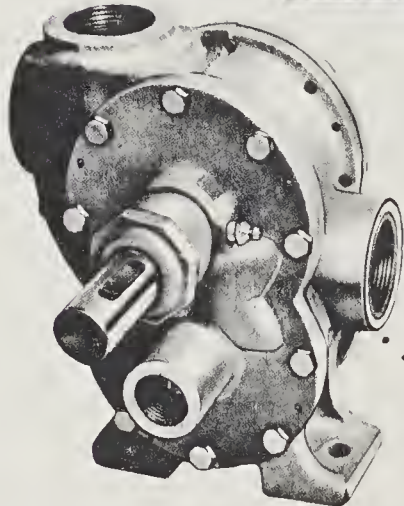
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NEWS NOTES

BUDGET BUREAU OK'S \$88 MILLION FOR REA

The Department of Agriculture informed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association late in June that the Budget Bureau had released an additional \$88 million of the remaining funds authorized by Congress for the electric loan program in fiscal 1966.

The \$88 million includes \$52 million of the \$60 million contingency fund, \$35 million of the regular loan funds authorized and \$1 million from recisions or loans for previous years.

Any of these funds that are not actually used by the end of June will carry over and be available to meet loan needs that remain at the close of the fiscal year.

The additional loan funds were badly needed to reduce somewhat the serious backlog of loan applications.

CLYDE ELLIS RETURNS TO HIS NRECA DUTIES

Clyde Ellis, General Manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, resumed his duties late in June. Ellis had been recuperating from a stroke and heart attack.

Ellis announced the appointment of Jerry Anderson, former editor of *The Carolina Farmer*, to the position of assistant general manager. Anderson had been serving as acting general manager during Ellis' illness.

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Moving to Town

I HAVE A newspaper friend who once lived in an apartment in a rural home north of Raleigh. It was quiet and isolated. I don't know how far it was from downtown Raleigh to his place, but I do remember that my standard comment after arriving was, "Why don't you sell your chickens and move to town?"

The drive out there took you through at least a couple of miles of almost open country. That was six or seven years ago. Now there's hardly a foot of it that isn't developed in some way. What was once timber and farm land is now covered with suburban houses, schools, super highways and stores. And new homes, schools, roads and shops are being built every day.

My friend didn't have to move to town. It came to him. And in a hurry.

I'm acutely aware of this because I drive by his "farm" house every time I go to or from work. My "city" house is a mile or so farther out.

Back in the late 'fifties there was a modest housing development or two and an even more modest "shopping center" in the area. Today there are thousands of homes, several large apartment houses and a shopping center suffering growing pains as it bids to be "the largest and most complete in the Southeast." From a population of a few thousand, the area has grown to a suburban center of 50,000. All this in less than a decade.

The thrust of the city swept away virtually all vestiges of rural life. Some remain, like the country store that still survives almost in the shadow of the sprawling shopping center.

What is happening in Raleigh, of course, is happening in varying degrees across the state and nation. Cities are moving out into areas that have always been strictly rural.

All of this is of paramount importance to electric co-ops. Areas they began serving when no one else would are suddenly becoming desirable to other suppliers. And everywhere you hear the cry that "electric co-ops are moving into cities and towns." It's being said in newspapers, on TV and even before congressional committees.

It's obvious to anyone who stops and thinks a bit, that this isn't the case at all. The opposite is true: Cities and towns are moving into areas served by electric co-ops.

And another thing to remember: It is the revenues the co-ops get from these more thinly settled areas that allow them to provide low-cost, first-rate service to the people living in more out-of-the-way places.

Electric co-ops haven't "sold their chickens and moved to town"—the towns are moving to where they are and have been for years.

THE HEARINGS before the House Agriculture Committee on supplemental financing for electric co-ops were not without their lighter moments.

Rep. W. R. Poage of Texas, vice chairman of the committee, provided many of them.

Once he was having trouble eliciting an answer to a question posed to Walter Bouldin, president of Alabama Power Company and one of REA's chief antagonists. He worded the question in several different ways, but Bouldin was still reluctant to answer—sensing, perhaps, that the answer would hardly serve his cause.

At last Bouldin said, "I'm having a little trouble with your question."

"You're not having a little trouble with my question," responded Poage, "you're having a lot of trouble with your answer."

GERTRUDE
by TED TROIRON



"GERTRUDE!"



"I WONDER HOW HE COULD TELL IT WAS ME, JUST BY MY FEET?"





TARHEEL RURAL LINES

reports on events of importance to rural electric co-op members/by J.C. Brown Jr.

One Thing You Can Be Sure Of

One of the things you can count on is the opposition of power companies and many Chambers of Commerce to any federal legislation that benefits rural people

This was illustrated again last month when Jack Riley, vice president of Carolina Power & Light Company and chairman of the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce Congressional Action Committee, wired the House Agriculture Committee expressing opposition to a Community Development District bill.

The bill would permit (not force) rural counties to join together for the purpose of economic development, and thereby receive planning assistance from the Department of Agriculture.

Roy Parker, of the *News and Observer's* Washington Bureau, reported that Congressman Harold Cooley, chairman of the Agriculture Committee, couldn't understand the opposition. But Cooley's committee amended the bill to assure beyond a doubt that the program was entirely voluntary.

Nevertheless, according to Parker's report, the Raleigh Chamber wired Cooley "to let the proposal die in committee." He added that Riley, who was in Washington when the telegram was delivered, admitted he wasn't too conversant with the measure or the reasons for the opposition. State planning officials, according to Parker, said his bill was a means of introducing economic development planning resources into areas which are not now eligible for such assistance from urban programs or special programs for depressed areas.

★

A Scare Campaign For Support

Power companies continue to wage a scare campaign to get people of prestige to lobby Congress against REA bank legislation which would ultimately free your cooperative of dependence upon the federal government. The power companies, which control about 80 percent of the nation's power resources, claim that if the bill, which is in Congressman Cooley's House Agriculture Committee, is adopted, the co-ops will take over the power companies. This is nonsense. The fact is that while the power companies don't want to serve the thinly-settled areas, they'd like to make sure the co-operatives don't have sufficient funds to render such service. Sometime, maybe, way in the future the power companies might want to serve these areas if they develop. Meantime, they don't want the people themselves to be able to do the job at reasonable rates.

You can help assure your right to preserve your cooperative and serve yourself with electric power if you will take the time to write your congressman and senators, and simply state that you support the REA-financed cooperatives in their desire to establish a bank which they will eventually own themselves.

Hearings on Financing End – But the Fight Only Beginning

Congressman Bob Poage of Waco, Texas was presiding and almost seemed to breathe a sigh of relief when he adjourned the meeting with a curt rap of the gavel. It was the end of a mild ordeal for him, the committee's chairman, Harold Cooley of Nashville, North Carolina, and most of the other 33 members of the House Committee on Agriculture.

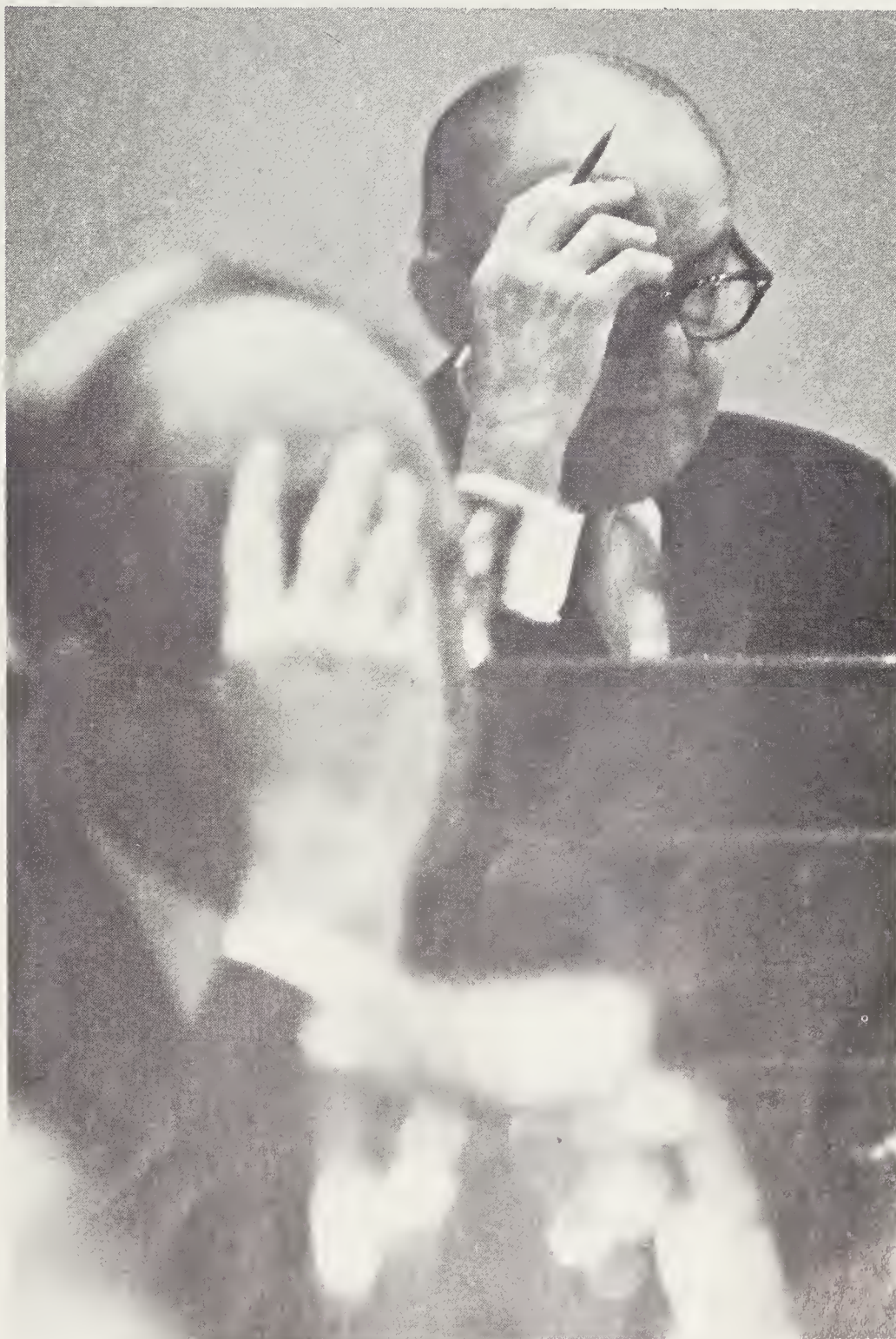
This was the conclusion of almost six weeks of testimony on legislation which calls for the creation of a bank for rural electric cooperatives. Each of the bills the committee had been considering are designed eventually to free the co-ops from dependence on the federal government. Despite the fact that they'd been urging this for years, private power companies from across the nation voiced vigorous opposition to the legislation.

In the committee hearings, their opposition had taken the form of a filibuster, backed up by a mass lobbying campaign. Only three witnesses testified for the co-ops. About 50 witnesses testified in behalf of the power companies.

Nationally, the private power companies voice their opinions through the Edison Electric Institute. Its president, Robert T. Person, set the stage for what was to follow when he blasted the bills for their "carte blanche authority" and for "advocating unlimited expansion of REA systems." He did this in a 28-page statement which also had nine pages of exhibits.

There was little difference in what any of the others had to say. The same was true of the Chamber of Commerce, which for reasons it failed to make clear, appeared in opposition to the bills.

(Continued on next page)



Congressman Cooley (background) studies testimony

HEARINGS ON FINANCING

(Continued from page 7)

Some were more vicious than others. Like George D. Gibson of Richmond, Va., general counsel of Virginia Electric and Power Company, who started off shooting from the hip: "These bills would reverse longstanding congressional policy, undermine the economy and precipitate endless controversy."

"I don't believe I've ever heard a battery of witnesses make so many ridiculous and completely indefensible statements. I'm tired of it and I wish they'd quit, so do the rest of the members," one veteran committee member said as the hearings neared an end.

Supporters of the bills had been heard in three days. The rest of the testimony came from opposing power company witnesses, with the exception of two witnesses.

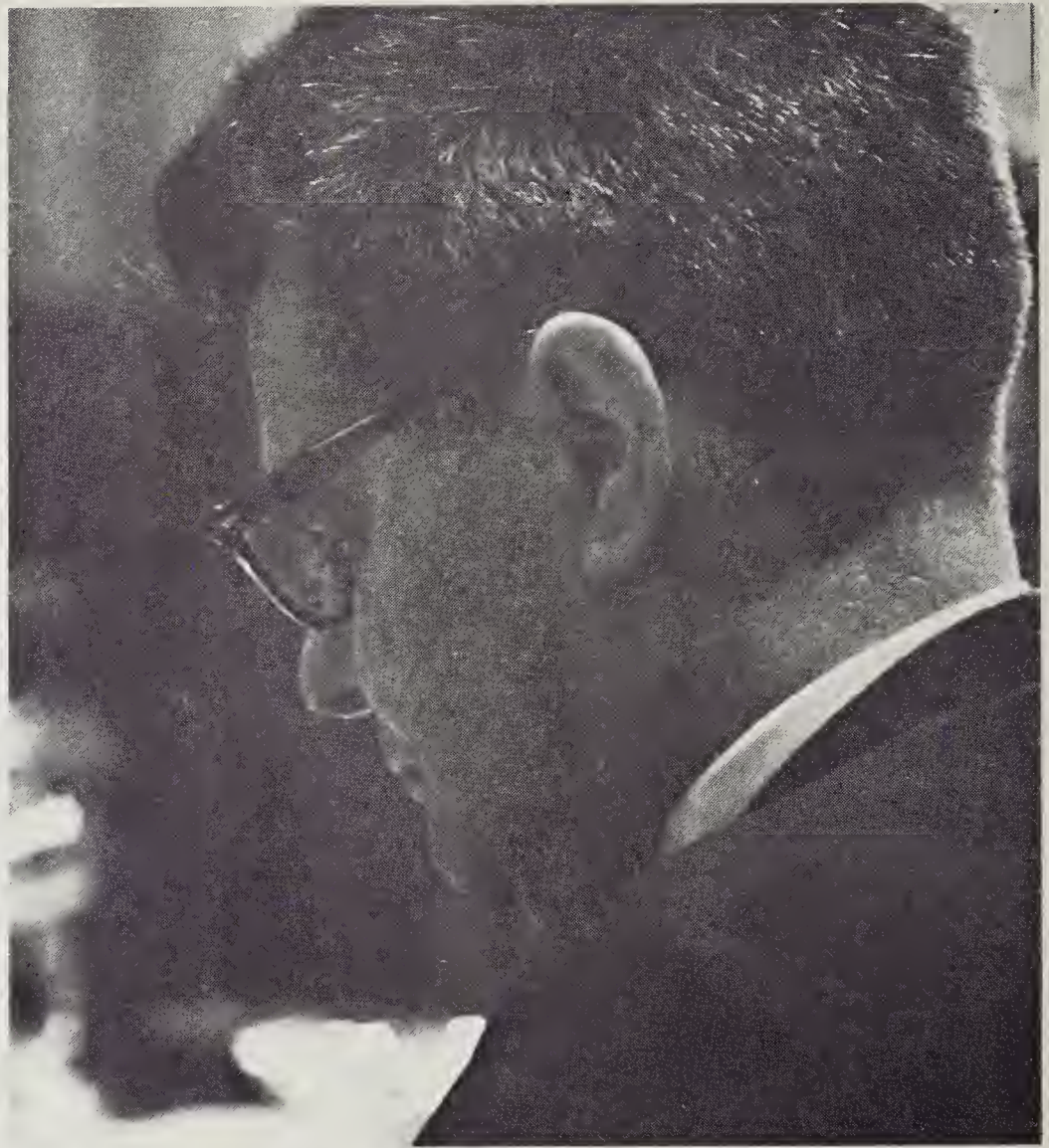
Invariably they had the same things to say. The same charges to make: The co-ops were trying to take the private power companies over. REA had already accomplished its purpose.

Another big federal boondoggle. A chance for REA to make further and larger loans for generation and transmission facilities.

While testimony such as this droned on, the power companies launched massive letter writing campaigns. Cooley alone received several hundred letters before the end of June. Many of these came from power company employees. But in Cooley's district, Carolina Power and Light's President, Shearon Harris, wrote a number of community leaders asking them to write their congressman expressing opposition to the legislation.

Meanwhile, co-op members from across the nation were seeking the support of their representatives. The mail on both sides of the question had mounted to staggering proportions as the hearings ended in mid-June.

In North Carolina, the legislation was given only scant attention in the daily press. A chief critic, Raleigh's right-wing televi-



REA Administrator Norman Clapp testifies.

sion newscaster, Jesse Helms, who railed that J. C. Brown Jr. was a "naughty little boy" for supporting the bill; and then made the preposterous charge that the bank would "provide at the taxpayers expense almost unlimited millions of tax-free federal dollars which tax exempt co-ops could lend to anybody and everybody for any purpose."

The end of the hearings, the mail, all the rest—this was certain to be only the beginning, the prelude to a fast-brewing storm. Congress began a 10-day Independence Day recess at the beginning of July. The committee was expected to hear further testimony from REA Administrator, Norman Clapp, immediately after the break. His testimony would be followed by sessions in which the bills would be "marked up." In these sessions, the committee was expected to combine features from all of the bills under consideration.

Considerable pressure had been exerted on a number of committee members to delay the bill in this session of Congress, or hold it for consideration until early next year.

This is the course advocated by the power companies, whose representatives are anxious to stall for time, hoping that the next Congress will be more favorable to their cause.

The staff of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association seemed confident that a majority on the Agriculture Committee would favor legislation the association could support. NRECA's bill had been introduced by Poage and Congressman Wilbur Mills of Arkansas. A bill less favorable to the co-ops had been introduced on behalf of the administration by Cooley. Features of the two bills were expected to be combined into legislation which the committee would act on finally. ■

Power Mowers: They Can Be Dangerous

A power lawn mower may look harmless but in operation it is one of the most dangerous machines around the home.

Out of the more than 80,000 persons who were injured or killed

in yard accidents in the United States last year, the greatest number was due to carelessness in mowing the lawn.

J. C. Ferguson, extension agricultural engineering specialist at North Carolina State University, explains that safety measures should be taken with lawn mowers at all times.

Ferguson suggests that the equipment be in proper operating condition with blades sharp and safety shields in place before mowing begins. He emphasizes the importance of sharpening blades several times during each mowing season. A sharp blade requires less power and leaves the grass bed much smoother.

Grass should not be mowed when wet, points out the specialist. This is especially true when electric powered lawn mowers will be used. A relatively minor accident with an electric mower could result in a fatality.

All debris such as wire, rocks, cans, grass, sticks and other objects should be cleared from the lawn before mowing. Mower blades may throw such objects through the air toward people or pets. According to Ferguson this is how most severe accidents occur.

Usually it is much safer to mow around terraces and banks rather than up and down. This is important, Ferguson says, when using heavy mowers. When mowing up and down banks, the operator may lose his balance while pushing or holding back the mower. On extremely high banks a rope should be used to let the mower down slowly and then pull it upward.

Riding mowers are not toys. Only one seat is provided and only a qualified operator should be on a mower while it is being used.

Agricultural engineers at N. C. State University point out several other starting and operating procedures. In starting a mower they recommend the placing of one foot on the housing of the mower. This helps to hold the mower in position while cranking and also eliminates the possibility of the mower being pulled over a foot as the engine starts.

After properly setting the throttle for starting, pull the engine over against two or more compression strokes with the choke closed. Then with a quick snap of the starting rope the engine should start with ease.

Some late models, however, are equipped with heavy spring starters that may be wound and started from the inertia of the spring rather than the use of a rope. Ferguson says this type of mower is much safer and makes it possible for women and older children to use the mower when they might not be able to start with a rope starter.

Several other safety measures are pointed out by the specialist.

Mowers should be allowed to cool before refueling and fuel should not be added while the motor is running.

All persons should stand at a safe distance when grass is being cut.

Periodic breaks while mowing are good for the body, especially during hot days when it is easy to become overheated. ■





The telephone line visible above the Leroy Grindle home will soon go underground, too.

They Like It Underground

By ARCHIE HATHCOCK

Electric service by means of an underground system is causing almost as much excitement as the coming of electric power to rural areas caused almost 30 years ago.

Members of Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation who live in Ashebrook Park are already beginning to compare their area with other developments which do not have underground electric service, even though Ashebrook Park is still in the process of being built.

Eventually Ashebrook Park, which is located one-half mile off the Cherryville-Dallas Highway in Gaston County, will consist of 55 homes. Fourteen homes have been completed and eight of these are occupied.

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Grindle moved into one of the homes last May because they "wanted to get out of town." "We really didn't consider the advantages of having the lines underground," said Mrs. Grindle, "but now when we compare the appearance of this place with other sections where the lines

are strung overhead, we really like the idea."

The Grindles moved from Gastonia where they both work, but from where they now live they can be to work in less time. It takes about 10 minutes now compared with about 30 minutes when we lived in town," said Mrs. Grindle. "We'd be satisfied out here anyway, but the underground electric lines is just one of the bonuses," she added.

Ashebrook Park covers 26 acres and is partially covered by dozens of species of trees. The developer, Douglas Rhyne of Rhyne Construction Co., wanted to retain as much of the beauty of the natural landscape as was possible and he became interested in putting electric lines underground from the beginning. The homes are to be all-electric, and it was only natural that they would want to use the most modern technique for delivering the electric power.

Rhyne has worked closely with employees of Rutherford EMC since the project was begun. Harry Wilson, Electrification Advisor for the co-op, spent a lot of time at

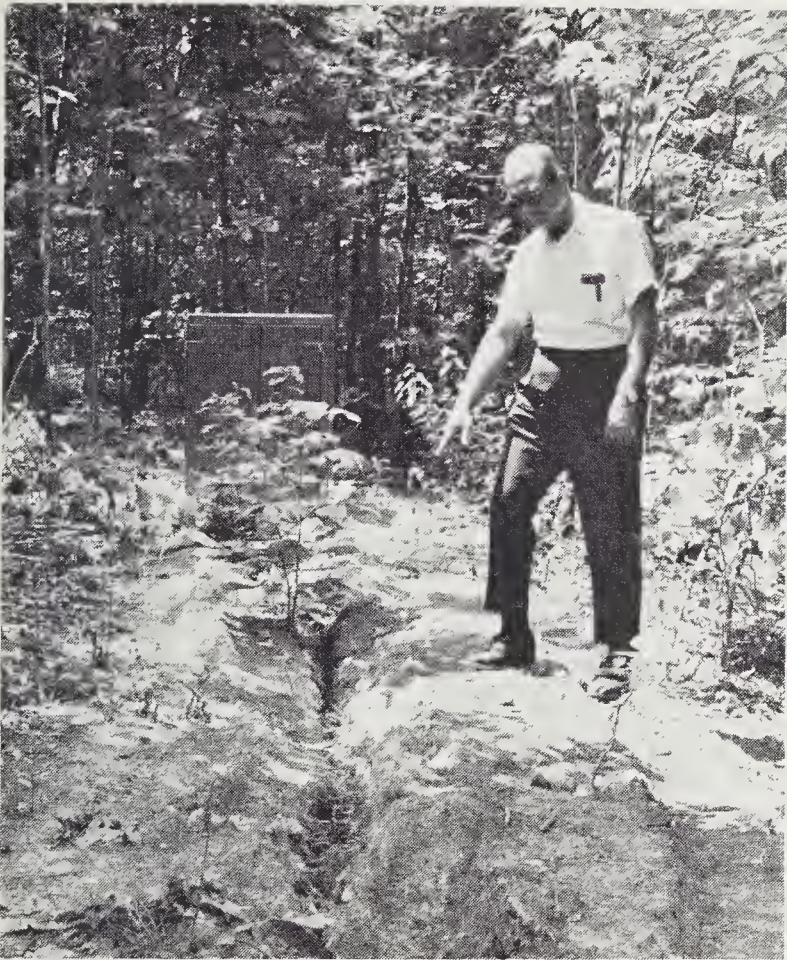
the site even before construction started and has been there almost constantly since.

"It was necessary to know precisely where and how each house was to be located on the lot and precisely where the lot lines were," said Wilson. "We've installed all the primary lines on the rear lot lines and the houses will be served from pad-mounted transformers at the rear of the lot," he added.

The only visible parts of the electric facilities will be the pad-mounted transformers and the risers on the side of the house where the meter will be located. Wilson pointed out that within a few years even the pad-mounted transformers could be obscured by the planting of shrubs by the homeowners.

Telephone service has not yet been extended throughout the development and probably won't be until more homes are built, but as extensions are made these, too, will be underground.

Underground service is costing the builder approximately \$50



Harry Wilson, Rutherford EMC, points to trench where line is buried. Only visible part of electric system is transformer in background.

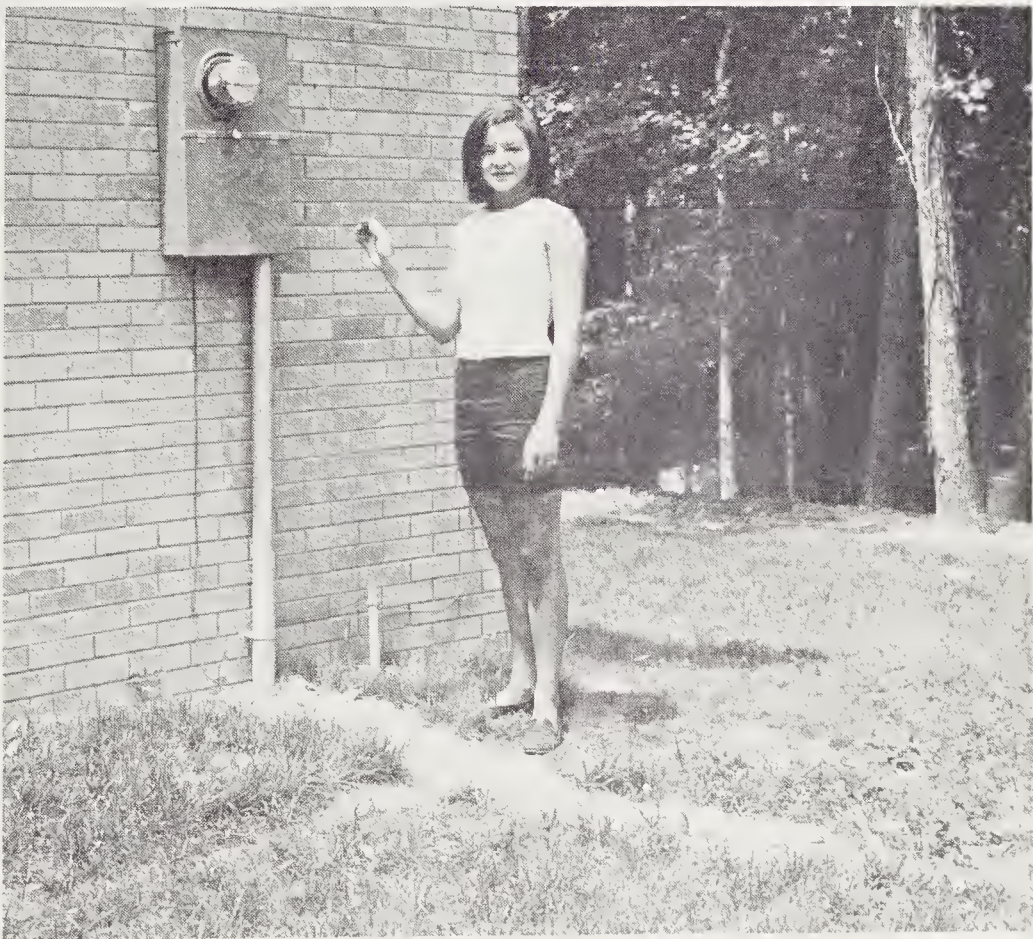


This power line right-of-way soon will be almost invisible due to rapid foliage growth. This "pedestal" is the housing for wiring connections.

more per house than would be the case of overhead lines. "But," says Rhyne, "I believe the appearance of this section upon its completion will be such that the houses will be more acceptable than those in areas where service is overhead. In fact," Rhyne continued, "I'm going to start advertising the underground service aspect just as I've been using the fact that they're all Gold Medallion homes."

Both Rhyne and Wilson share the belief that the distribution of electric energy from underground will, in the future, replace overhead lines. The time is not at hand, however, when existing overhead lines will be taken down and underground lines installed. There have been some problems connected with some of the new equipment. But as these problems are worked out and as new techniques are perfected, the cost of providing below ground distribution will decrease.

In fact, some of the experts in the field are of the opinion that the cost may be even less than the cost of installing and maintaining overhead lines. ■



Janice Trammell, stepdaughter of Grindle, gets the job of reading the meter. Electric lines from underground go up through conduit and into meter base.

End-of-Summer Coolers

Recipes for frosty beverages from the electric blender or the punch bowl. Serve at back-to-school parties, bridal teas, birthday galas, or as special family treats.

Frosted Glasses. Cool glass and swab the rim with a section of lemon from which the juice is flowing freely. Swirl to remove excess moisture; then dip the rim to a depth of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in powdered or confectioner's sugar. Lift glass and tap gently to remove excess sugar. Of course, glasses can be chilled, without frosting, by merely leaving them in refrigerator an hour or so before serving punches or milk shakes.

Ice Punch Bowls. Here's a marvelous idea for a particularly unique punch bowl, made of ice itself: Place in sink a 50 lb. cube of ice. Chip out a small depression in the center of the ice block and set in it a round metal bowl of at least 3 qt. capacity. Fill the bowl with boiling water, being careful not to spill any of the ice beneath. As the heat of the bowl melts the ice, pour the water. As the water cools, empty and refill the bowl each time, bailing out the depression in the ice. Move ice block onto a tray of aluminum foil, which should be a couple of inches larger

than the block, constructed of heavy-duty material in leak-proof fashion, the edges turned up about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches all around to form a gutter. Trim with flowers, greenery, fruit.

Decorate Ice Cubes. Add party touch to cool drinks by adding decorative ice cubes: Fill refrigerator tray with water, fill sections with one of the following—Maraschino cherry, preserved strawberry, piece of lemon or pineapple, sprig of mint, etc.

Decorative Ice Mold for Punch Bowl. Select decorative mold (ring or tubular). Partially freeze a layer of water in the mold. On the first slush-like layer, arrange a wreath of fruit and greenery (let your imagination run wild—flowers are also lovely in ice ring); cover the decoration carefully with a second layer of very cold water, returning the mold to the freezer so that with renewed freezing the decoration is completely surrounded by clear ice. Repeat the procedure if the depth of the mold permits.



Blender Frozen Coffee

Place in electric blender for each drink:

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup coffee
1 tablespoon sugar
 $\frac{1}{16}$ teaspoon ground cloves
Dash rum extract

Add not less than:

2 cups crushed ice.

Blend thoroughly and serve in chilled, tall glasses

Fruit Milk Shake

(4 servings)

Combine in a blender:

1- $\frac{1}{3}$ cups chilled sweetened apricot, prune, strawberry or raspberry juice
2- $\frac{2}{3}$ cups cold milk

Serve over crushed ice.



Pineapple Punch

Place in a large bowl:

2 cups strong tea

Add and stir well:

3/4 cup lemon juice

2 cups orange juice

2 tablespoons lime juice

1 cup sugar

Leaves from 12 sprigs mint

Place these ingredients on ice for 2 hours. Shortly before serving, strain the punch and add:

8 slices pineapple and juice from can

5 pints chilled ginger ale

4 pints chilled carbonated water

Crushed ice.

Mocha Punch

Prepare, then chill well:

7 cups freshly made coffee

Whip until stiff:

2 cups whipping cream

You may whip an additional 1/2 cup heavy cream and then reserve about a cup to garnish the tops. Have in readiness:

2 quarts chocolate ice cream

Pour the chilled coffee into a large chilled bowl. Add 1/2 the ice cream. Beat until the cream is partly melted.

Add:

1 teaspoon almond extract

1/4 teaspoon salt

Fold in the remainder of the ice cream and all but a cup of the whipped cream. Pour the punch into tall glasses. Garnish the tops with the reserved cream.

Sprinkle with:

Freshly grated nutmeg or
grated sweet chocolate

Pineapple or Orange Eggnog

(4 servings)

Combine in a blender:

2 cups chilled pineapple or
orange juice

1 tablespoon confectioner's
sugar or honey

1 1/2 tablespoons lemon juice

1 egg or 2 egg yolks

A pinch of salt

1/4 cup cracked ice

Blend well.

Strawberry Fruit Punch

Bail for 5 minutes

4 cups water

4 cups sugar

Coal the sirup. Combine:

2 quarts hulled strawberries

1 cup sliced canned or fresh
pineapple

1 cup mixed fruit juice—

pineapple, apricot, raspberry, etc.

Juice of 5 large oranges

Juice of 5 large lemons

(3 sliced bananas)

Add the chilled sirup or as much of it as is palatable. Chill these ingredients. Immediately before serving, add:

2 quarts carbonated water

3 cups or more crushed ice

This is a strong punch. It is purposely prepared this way, as the ice will thin it. Water also may be added if desired.

Lemonade for 100 People

Bail for 10 minutes:

4 cups water

8 cups sugar

Coal the sirup. Add:

7 1/2 cups lemon juice

Stir in the contents of:

2 No. 2 1/2 cans crushed pineapple
or 6 to 8 cans frozen juice con-
centrate

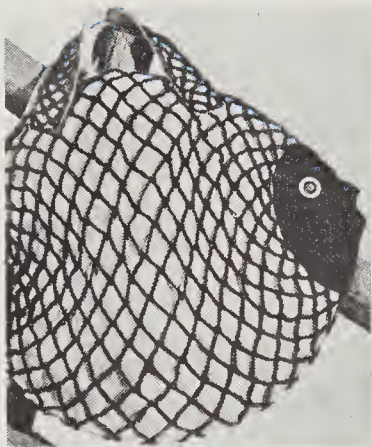
Add:

8 sliced seeded oranges

4 gallons water

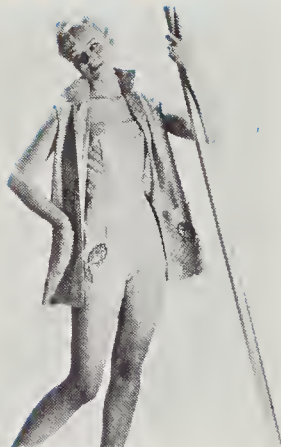
Chill. Serve over ice.

Free Patterns



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To rest and play with. Knit checkerboard cover on foam rubber pillow. Sew handles for easy carrying.

Tunic to throw over your bathing suit. Make pillow carrying case to put it in—also beach mat.



Family FARE

By ERMA ANGEVINE



Crowder Valley lies buried deep in the Appalachian mountains, a beautiful and unspoiled wilderness. Ben Haas explores the controversy over its future in his latest novel, *The Last Valley*. (Simon and Schuster. New York City, 1966. 478 pp.)

Rural electric members will read this book not only because it's a tale well told, but also because it's a story we've tried to tell. It took someone outside the rural electric family to make the unbelievably vicious attacks co-op people have suffered for the past 30 years come alive.

Bitter editorials, lies, deceit are all a part of a power conflict described in this novel. In *The Last Valley*, a rural electric manager plays a key role. You meet a statewide manager and several of his staff. You hear the name-calling of the investor-owned utilities before a state utility commission. You watch an out-of-state utility maneuver state officials like pawns on a chess board. You live the tension at the hearing and again in the state legislature.

Whether Haas is telling the muted love story of a retired army general or giving a lyrical description of a bear hunt, his story moves and his characters come to life.

Skyline Power & Light, owned by stockholders in other states, wants Crowder Valley. It wants to flood the valley and sell the power it generates at a cut rate to its own factory over the state line.

Co-op leaders now fighting for supplemental financing will find the array of antagonists familiar and their voices crying the same innuendoes—"rural electric co-ops are taking over the power industry," "socialism," "un-American," "subsidized co-ops."

Because utility companies have enormous prestige and stature, people are unwilling to believe they'll stoop to unsportsmanlike conduct. Few people today remember the Insull era. Most people assume the investor-owned utility is just another business in the community. They fail to realize the owners are not in their town nor anywhere near it. They are stock brokers, insurance companies, financial wheeler-dealers largely located in the East.

Small wonder such an industry-owned corporation is impersonal, has little appreciation of the public interest. Small wonder, too, that co-ops—home owned and controlled—have a hard time getting their story told.

If you've friends who feel we take the IOU attacks too seriously, suggest they read *The Last Valley*.

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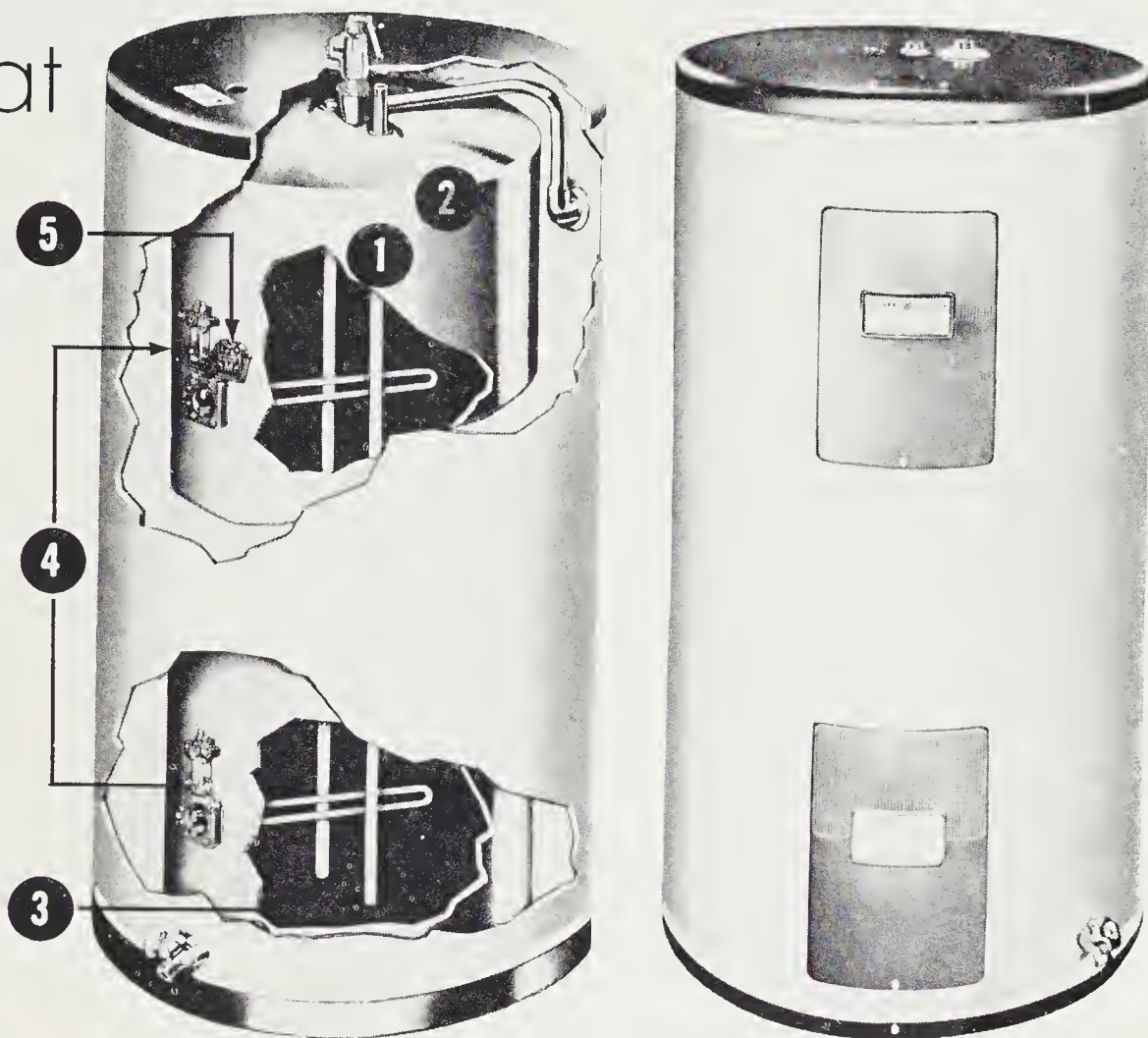
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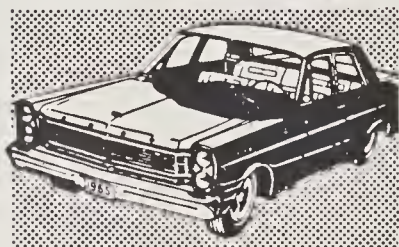
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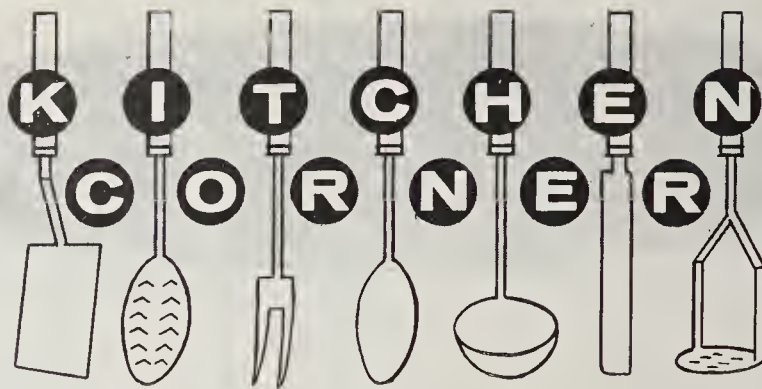
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RUM CAKE

A dedicated *Carolina Farmer* reader and recipe-saver, Mrs. J. A. (Lettie) Bright, sends us the yummiest-sounding cake recipe to go through our files in sometime. This, it seems to us, is one of those blue-ribbon recipes, to be tried for a club meeting, a party, or when very special company comes for Sunday dinner.

Mrs. Bright, who lives with her husband, a rural mail carrier, on Route 3, Marion, is a member of the Burke-McDowell Electric Membership Corporation. The Brights are active members of the Calvary Baptist Church, where she serves as church clerk, as Sunday School secretary, and as program chairman in the WMSC.

Mrs. Bright has also found time to participate in the McDowell County Home Demonstration Club for the past seven years, and was County Council President for two years. The Brights have three children and nine grandchildren.

If you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share through this column, send it to: Rebekah Rivers, Kitchen Corner, P. O. Box 1699, Raleigh. Tell us something about yourself and family and give us the name of your electric membership corporation. We pay \$2 for the recipe chosen monthly for this column.

CAROLINA FARMER RECIPE

Submitted by Mrs. J.A. Bright, P.O. Box 1047, Marion, N.C.

RUM CAKE

1 cup or two sticks butter or margarine	3½ cups plain flour
½ cup shortening or salad oil	½ teaspoon baking powder
2½ cups sugar	½ teaspoon salt
5 eggs	1 cup sweet milk
	1 tablespoon rum extract

Cream butter, shortening, and sugar well, add eggs, one at a time. Beat well after adding each egg. Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. Add alternately with milk and rum extract.

Grease sides and bottom of tube pan with soft butter. Line pan with waxed paper. Sprinkle one cup or more of chopped pecans in bottom, then sprinkle with flour (before pouring cake batter in).

Bake at 225 degrees one hour; then about 300 degrees until done (about 45 minutes).

GLAZE

1 cup brown sugar	1/3 cup water	1 stick butter
-------------------	---------------	----------------

Bail water, sugar, and butter for 2 or 3 minutes; add 2 teaspoons rum extract. Mix together well and spread on cake.

Fashion

FAVORITES

Becky's ALMANAC

"Not this August, nor this September; you have this year to do in what you like."

---ERNEST HEMINGWAY

August is the month of gladiolus... of sardonyx . . . of rubies. It is the month of the fleeting summer, the back-to-school month, the end-of-vacation month. August babies are ruled by the Sun, and they were born under the sign of Leo, the Lion. Why, we don't know, but the August color is red! Aug. 1 is Colorado Day, and in Rhode Island, the 14th is Victory Day. Down in Louisiana, Huey Long Day is celebrated on the 30th. Everywhere, the end of the month is spent getting ready for that last summer holiday, Labor Day, which falls on the 5th of September.

For sentimental mothers who want to preserve their daughter's wedding gowns following a summer ceremony, here's a tip: Take the gown to a reliable drycleaner before storing it. Ask that it be hand drycleaned. When you pack it, use plenty of blue tissue paper between the folds, place in an airtight box and store in a cool place to avoid mildew. Or if you wish, check to see if the drycleaner has the facilities to do this packing for you.

Quickie Dessert Idea: Chill canned peaches, either sliced or halves. At serving time, drain off part of the sirup and add carbonated lemon-lime beverage. Plain cookies or toasted pound cake slices are a good go-along.

To repair tears under button, try reinforcing and mending the area under the button with iron-on interfacing of a suitable weight and color for the garment. Then sew the button on again, drawing thread through the fabric and interfacing.

If you are in doubt about measuring for or making slip covers, ask your home agent for a copy of "Let's Decorate With Slipcovers."

9095 12½-24½



4748
SIZES 10-20



4920

SIZES
S-36-38
M-40-42
L-44-46
Ex. L-48-50

4591
21½-23"



4677
21½-23"



4693
SIZES 2-8

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The Celebration of a Miracle

The miracle of electricity in rural areas is still noted by observers of American life. One of those observers recently attended a co-op annual meeting in South Dakota. He is Bob Considine, noted radio commentator and newspaper columnist. Here, reprinted from the *Congressional Record*, are his comments.

COLMAN, S. DAK.—Ten thousand residents of this virile part of the United States gathered here this week to celebrate a miracle a majority of Americans, who are city slickers, accept as their just due.

What was celebrated here under a vast tent was the still stupendous fact that after centuries of darkness America's farms were given electricity. This was the annual meeting of the Sioux Valley Empire Association, one of the big and lively cooperatives that electrified rural America when the big utility companies wouldn't or couldn't, and when even some of the farmers and ranchers themselves fought against the burial of the kerosene lamp of yore.

Pretty second-generation farm wives shopped glittering appliance booths for the latest word in time-saving, labor-saving and even status-giving gee-gaws that come to life when plugged into the now endless miles of power lines that stitch remote areas to urban centers. While they stopped, some of their still-living mothers and grandmothers remembered when an iron was actually made of iron, a six-pound slab of it that had to be heated on a wood stove. And when an evening's entertainment was derived from well-thumbed stereopticon slides, not color-TV, radio and home movies.

Farmers, ranchers and other users of electric power studied over new ways to put the incredible, invisible slave to work—make it pump water to barren lands, automate cow milking, lift, tote, bale, pull, push, and permit one man to keep a few chicks happy without giving them a single cluck.

Hard to believe that when the Rural Electrification Administration was set up in 1935, as

part of President Roosevelt's revolution, only 11 per cent of U. S. farms had electricity. Today the figure is 99 per cent. When REA started, the public utilities people were charging as much as \$3,000 a mile to stretch a line.

Cooperatives, put together by people who in some cases were so poor they could pay only \$2 of the \$5 membership fee, and give a note for the remainder, soon were able to borrow money from REA on easy long-term plans, and the face of America changed more radically in a short time than ever before in her history.

"The night the lights came on" is still hailed in many rural regions as an occasion ranking with the stature of such feast days as Christmas and Thanksgiving. Electrical power changed millions of lives instantaneously, ended lonely isolation, provided public health, cut deep into farm accidents, provided a tremendous shot in the arm for the American economy, made us the breadbasket of the world, won a war, sealed a peace.

A Kentuckian recalls: "It was late on a November afternoon, just before dark. All we had was wires hanging down from the ceiling in every room, with bare bulbs on the end. Dad turned on the one in the kitchen first, and he just stood there, holding onto the pull-chain. He said to me, 'Carl, come here and hang onto this so I can turn on the light in the sitting room.'"

It's still happening in places like Colman, S. Dak., where people remain grateful for electricity, proud of having worked to get it for themselves and their families, and eager to know more uses for it. They make a fellow ashamed he beefed over that little blackout we had in New York last year.

Today's Big Job: Provide a Yardstick

The big bass singer in the Baptist Church choir had been sitting beside the pianist Sunday after Sunday without paying her much attention. But suddenly one Sunday he decided: "I'm going to marry that girl." And four years later he did.

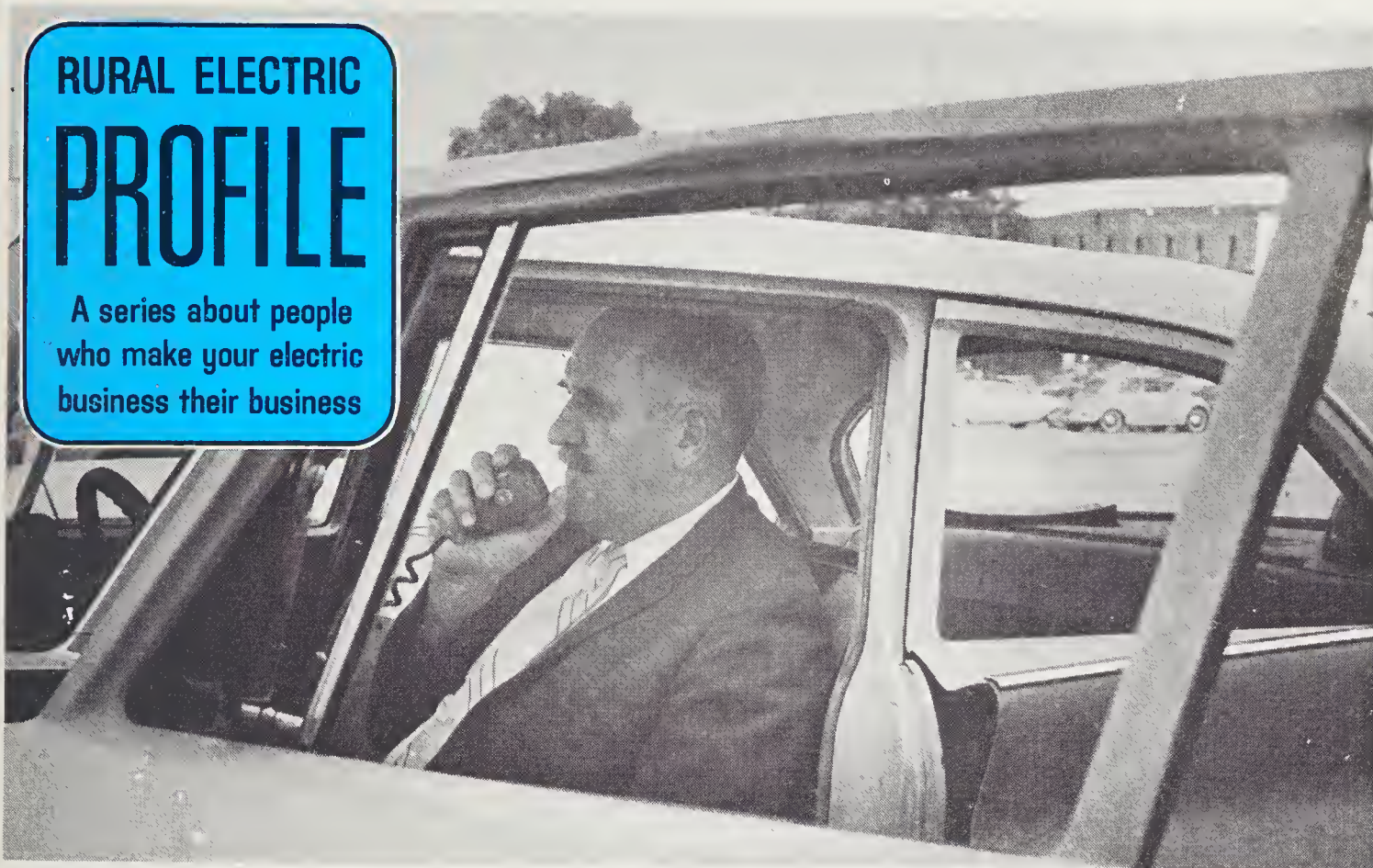
That's the way Alton P. Wall, the manager of Randolph Electric Membership Corporation, is about most of his decisions: He sticks by them. Even his friends say he can be stubborn. But they quickly point out that nothing persuades him sooner than common sense.

After two decades as one of the top leaders in North Carolina's electrification program, Wall still seems to enjoy thoroughly the day-to-day work of running a co-operative. The co-op, his family and a 200-acre farm on the snake-like Uwharrie River 12 miles south of Asheboro, take most of his time.

It was back in 1939, that Al Wall had his first experience with rural electrification. He walked into Randolph EMC's office one day to find out if he could get a line run to his father's farm. He got the line and a job as a line-man too. By the time he went into the Army in 1942, he had be-

RURAL ELECTRIC PROFILE

A series about people
who make your electric
business their business



Al Wall, manager of Randolph EMC, and former president of N. C. EMC.

come the co-op's top lineman. "I'd found out that I really liked that kind of work—almost as much as farming," he recalls. And he'd had to give up, at least temporarily, some long-cherished plans to become a dairy farmer.

He and Nell Robbins, the pianist from the Baptist Church in Randleman, were married the day he got his commission in the Army Corps of Engineers. Wall still laughs when he remembers that he'd "never thought about dating her until the day I decided to marry her." He and Nell have one daughter, Rebecca, a 19-year-old junior at Wake Forest College, who is spending the summer working with under-privileged children in Durham.

Wall had been out of the service only 10 days before he was back on the job with the co-op. Three years later, he'd been named assistant manager—the first person to fill such a position at the co-op. Within five months after the promotion, he became manager when Cecil Viverette left to become manager of Blue Ridge EMC.

"One of the great things about rural electrification to me," he says "will always be the fact that just three decades ago only three

of every 100 rural homes had lights. Now it's almost 100 of 100. But our big job today is to provide a yardstick for other consumers. I'm a firm believer in competition—that it will bring better service to all Americans. To me, this is the true role of the rural electrics today."

A former president of Tarheel Electric Membership Association, he has been active in the formation of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, the wholesale rate-negotiating arm of the state's co-ops, and its predecessor, Eastern N. C. EMC. He stepped down this year as president of N. C. EMC and Eastern N. C. EMC after 12 years in the post.

Throughout the time he has played an active role in rural electrification statewide, Wall has had an important part in local affairs. He's served as president of the Northern Piedmont Area Development Association, president of the Farmer Grange and recently retired as a lieutenant colonel in the Army Corps of Engineers. He and his wife are charter members of the Baptist Church in their community.

A native of Rural Hall, just out-

side Winston-Salem, Wall's family moved to Randleman when he was seven. He went to high school in Randleman and attended Wake Forest College. After that, he went back to the farm, and still maintains: "There's no other life for a man to live when you really think about it. He gets to spend more time with his children and it's a wonderful atmosphere. I went to the field with my father for the first time when I was six; and I think I was considered a hand by the time I was 12. I have a hard time figuring out what kids who sit around town most of the time get out of life."

People seem to remember Al Wall wherever he goes. For one thing, he wears a heavy mustache and has the physical dimensions of a professional football player.

He once walked into a store in Randolph County and a little girl at the back kept eyeing him. She whispered to her mother about seeing his picture in the paper as though he might have been in movies. Her mother laughed. So did Wall when he heard. She'd recognized him from a snapshot which appears beside his monthly column in the co-op newsletter.

ALLEN PAUL

Should Teen-Agers Be Front-Line Fighters in Viet Nam?

"I feel that a teen-age boy is much too young to be fighting in the war. The average teen-ager isn't really grown up and doesn't understand himself yet, much less war which the most diplomatic men for centuries haven't figured out. I feel that it is too big a step from the malt shop to the battle-front. I suppose one of the reasons I am against this is because I have an 18-year-old boyfriend in the Navy and many friends who are fighting in Viet Nam."

Karen Hazel
c/o Troy Mercer
Route 2
Pink Hill

Karen is 15 years old and will be a Sophomore at Asceola High School in Kissimmie, Florida. She is staying with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Troy Mercer in Pink Hill this summer. They are served by Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. George Hazel of Kissimmie, Florida.



"There is not much anyone can do about this because when the young boys and men are trained, they don't have a choice of where they are going to be placed in line or the area to which they will go. I don't think anyone can decide



who should be in front. There are also men who left wives and small children behind along with the young teenagers who left their future behind. The only solution to this problem is for war to end and peace to come, then there will be no choice as to whom will be in the front lines."

Nora Lee Hall
Route 2
Boonville

Nora will be a Freshman this fall, and she enjoys reading. She lives with her sister, who is served by South River Electric Membership Corporation.



"I don't think teen-agers should be put on the front lines in the Viet Nam war for one simple reason. The reason is that these teen-agers who are being asked to die

for their country, don't even have the right to vote. If teen-agers are put on the front lines, they should at least be able to vote for whom they want to head the country they are dying for."

Paulette Sessoms
Route 2
St. Pauls

Paulette is 18 years old and has just graduated from the St. Pauls High School. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse J. Sessoms, Jr., are members of Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation.



"Teenagers should be placed in the front fighting lines in the Viet Nam War if they are needed. At 18 a boy should be mature enough to take equal responsibilities of a man. Most teen-age men don't have wives and children to leave behind. After they have served their time in service, they are still young enough to plan for the future."

Judy Norris
Route 1, Box 203
Boone

Judy is 16 years old and a Junior at Watauga High School. She enjoys reading. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Norris, are members of Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation.

Teen

ROUND TABLE

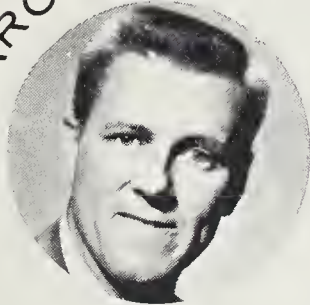
If you have a good answer, send it to THE TEEN ROUNDTABLE, The Carolina Farmer, P. O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N. C., at once. Send a photo too, if you have one, (we can't return it) and a few facts about you. Include your parents' name, and the name of the electric corporation serving you. If your answer is published, we will pay you \$5.

If you want to submit a question, send it along for our statewide Teen Roundtable. For each question used, the sender will get a \$5 prize. Write your question down and send it to us right away.

NEXT QUESTION

"Should teen-agers be paid for work done at home? If so, to what extent?"

This question was submitted by Genie Byrd, who will be receiving a check for \$5 from THE CAROLINA FARMER. Genie has just graduated from Clarkton High School and plans to attend East Carolina College this fall to major in home economics. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Everett W. Byrd, are served by Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation.



Keep Cool

While the Federal Housing Administration hasn't gone so far as to require the installation of central air conditioning, it is making predictions that by 1975 houses without air conditioning will be obsolete and hard to sell.

Since the FHA is now requiring builders of homes financed through FHA to install underground electric facilities, one could almost predict that by 1975 it may also be requiring the builder to install central air conditioning equipment.

Such predictions indicate a growing acceptance of air conditioning just as some form of central heating has been accepted for years. And central air conditioning is not the costly item it was several years ago. An average-size house can now be centrally air conditioned for \$800 to \$1,000. When the ducts of a central heating system can also be utilized for carrying the cool air, the cost for cooling may be even less.

A central air-conditioning system isn't like a piece of plugged-

in equipment. It must be custom-tailored to the individual house by someone who knows the air conditioning business. This person must be able to determine how much heat gain there is in the home during the cooling period so he can determine how much heat to remove.

This person should take into account the square footage in the house, whether it has a peaked or flat roof and whether it's light or dark colored, the number of windows and the direction they face, the typography of the area in which you live, the exposure, the style, design and construction of the house, whether it's insulated, the size of your family and the anticipated amount of in-and-out traffic.

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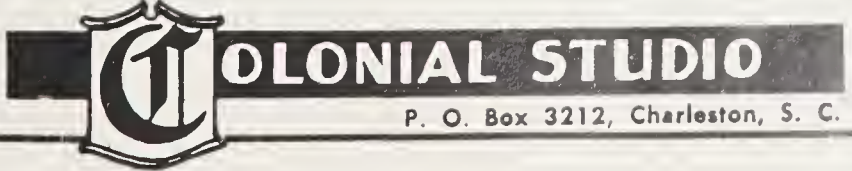
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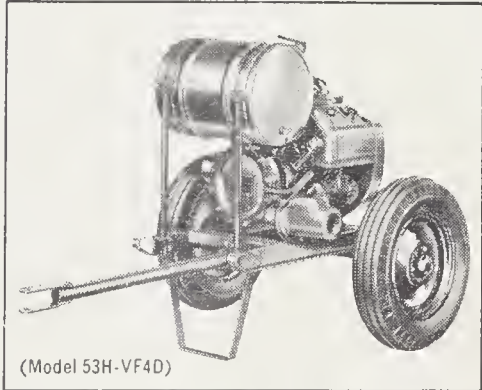


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Out of Weapons

It used to be papa dealt out a stern code of discipline to junior. Then the electric razor took away his razor strap, furnaces took away the woodshed and tax worries took away his hair and the hairbrush. That's why kids are running wild today. Dad ran out of weapons.

It Figures

The minister, addressing a Sunday School class had taken for his theme the story of Elisha on his journey to Bethel—how the youngsters had taunted the old prophet, and how they were punished when two bears came out of the wild and ate forty and two of them.

"And now, children," concluded the pastor, wishing to stress the moral point, "what does this story show?"

"It shows," ventured one little girl timidly, "how many children two bears can hold."

Sisterless

Little Freddy was watching TV in the playroom when he was told to go downstairs and entertain his sister's beau while she finished dressing. Disgusted at having to leave his favorite program, Freddy faced the young man and asked: "Why do you have to come to see my sister every night? Ain't you got one of your own?"



"Would somebody please tell me what's so exhilarating about all this!"

HALE!

Fast Dresser

In a family with nine children, it's the job of the older brothers and sisters to look after the little ones.

Normally, the youngsters appear at breakfast still in their pajamas.

Father was surprised, therefore, when the four-year old showed up at the breakfast table fully dressed.

"How did you get dressed so soon?" father asked.

Replied the youngster, "They never undressed me last night."

On Their Own

Her father asked his prospective son-in-law if he could support a family, and we have to admire the young man's answer—"No, sir, I was only planning to support your daughter. The rest of you will have to take care of yourselves."

Subtraction

The teacher asked Harry how old his sister was. "Twenty-five," replied the boy.

"Twenty-five," said the teacher, in a tone of surprise. "She told me she was twenty."

"Oh," explained Harry, "that's 'cause she was five before she learned to count."

Hard Diet

"I can't stand my husband's nasty disposition," wept the young bride. "Why, he's made me so jittery that I'm losing weight."

"Then why don't you leave him?" a solicitous female relative asked.

"Oh, I'm going to," the bride replied. "I'm just waiting until I get down to 115 pounds."

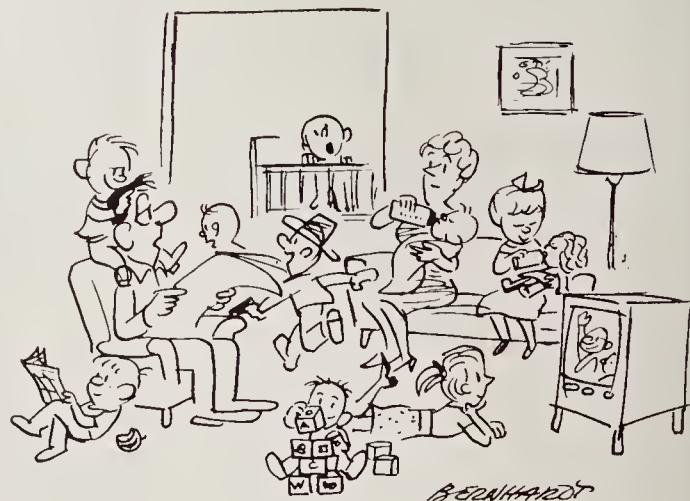
Good Reason

Waiting in line at the parachute jumping club, the new member nervously inquired of the grizzled veteran, "What made you decide to become a jumper?"

The older man replied: "A plane with 3 dead engines."



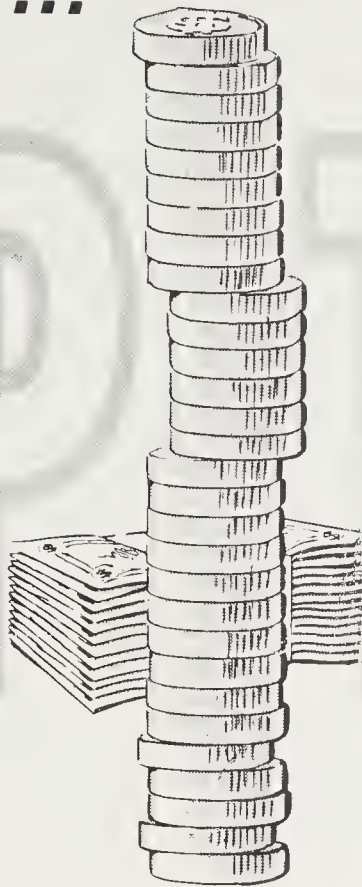
"I'm so proud, John. Imagine having an ulcer, just like the big tycoons and Madison Avenue boys!"



"I wonder what's behind this population explosion"

A FARMER NEEDS ...

CAPITAL



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Ahoskie, FLBA and PCA	Fayetteville, PCA	Marshall, PCA	Sanford, FLBA and PCA	Waynesville, PCA
Asheboro, PCA	Goldsboro, PCA	Manroe, FLBA and PCA	Shallotte, PCA	Weldon, PCA
Asheville, FLBA and PCA	Graham, PCA	Nashville, PCA	Shelby, FLBA and PCA	Whiteville, PCA
Boone, FLBA	Greensboro, PCA	New Bern, PCA	Siler City, PCA	Williamston, PCA
Burgow, PCA	Greenville, PCA	Newton, PCA	Smithfield, FLBA and PCA	Wilmington, PCA
Corthage, PCA	Henderson, FLBA and PCA	Oxford, PCA	Snaw Hill, PCA	Wilson, PCA
Cherryville, PCA	Hendersonville, PCA	Plymouth, PCA	Statesville, FLBA and PCA	Windsor, PCA
Clinton, FLBA and PCA	Hillsboro, PCA	Raeford, PCA	Tabar City, PCA	Winston-Salem, FLBA and PCA
Concord, PCA	Kenansville, PCA	Raleigh, PCA	Torboro, FLBA	Yodkinville, PCA
Dunn, PCA	Kinstan, FLBA and PCA	Reidsville, PCA	Trenton, PCA	Yanceyville, PCA
Ellerbe, PCA	Laurinburg, PCA	Richmonds, PCA	Wadesboro, PCA	
Elizabeth City, PCA	Louisburg, PCA	Rocky Mount, PCA	Warrenton, PCA	
Elizabethtown, PCA	Lumberton, FLBA and PCA	Roxboro, PCA	Washington, FLBA and PCA	

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